SEP 2 | 1993

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND ARMS CONTROL 2101 Constitution Avenue Washington, D.C. 20418

C/SK-BW/

September 21, 1993

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TO: Josh Lederberg FROM: Jo Husbands

SUBJECT: News and Questions

- 1. I will be away from Sept. 25 Oct. 4. I will be attending the Amaldi conference in Rome as part of the CISAC group. Lois Peterson will handle the administration for our meeting, and will know how to reach me.
- 2. Your Meeting with Petrov. The CISAC meeting with the Russians is October 25-27. I can arrange your meeting with Petrov for anytime that is convenient for you -- when do you want that to be? However, when the committee met yesterday to talk about the agenda for the meeting, we decided to ask if you would also be willing to give a short presentation on BW issues and the status of our joint activities. We would obviously schedule it to coincide with your meeting with Petrov. Would you be willing to do a presentation?
- 3. Possible Support for BW Conversion Activity. Phil Smith and Sue Woolsey have been meeting with Ash Carter to talk about a big Academy program -- including running projects -- to help with defense conversion in the FSU. As part of that, they met yesterday with Harold Smith, who is handling at least some of the assistance for CBW, and among other things they raised the idea of Monath's project. According to Sue, Smith was generally positive, both about the idea and about the need to get moving. I'll keep you posted on how that progresses.
- 4. NPO Vector and Smallpox. Rob Chanock called to say that several people have told him that, during the open session on destruction of the smallpox collections in Glasgow, someone asked Sandakchiev if it was true that one or more people from his lab had contracted and died from smallpox after the last "natural" case in the late '70s. Chanock was told that Sandakchiev said the report was true. Have you heard anything about this? Rob suggests contacting Yuri Ghendon, the chair of the session, but I wanted to see what you knew before I wrote the letter.

Many thanks and cheers.